

Circuit Court.

Judge J. H. Collins began his duties as circuit judge at the January term of court, Monday, with only court officials in attendance, and after a session lasting a few minutes, adjourned court until it would be possible for people to get to the court room. A judgment was given the Saginaw Medicine Co. for \$633.75 against Howard C. Allen and his bondsmen, T. W. Tewksberry and William Denchy of Morrice.

Motions were argued Monday afternoon in the circuit court.

The Aultman-Taylor Machine Co. was given a judgment, Monday, of \$765.82 against P. D. Brookway of Owosso, and Herman Brendahl of Ovid, on notes due on the purchase of a threshing outfit.

The appointment of Walter M. Bush as assistant prosecuting attorney was announced. He succeeds Earl S. Wolaver, who has joined the ordinance corps of the U. S. army and is at Augusta, Georgia.

Court was adjourned Monday until Jan. 21, when naturalization matters will be taken up followed by chancery matters, the jury being called for Jan. 28th.

Mich. Midwinter Teachers' Inspiration Institute.

For Teachers and Patrons of Shiawassee County's Schools At Baptist Church, Owosso Thursday and Friday January 24 and 25, 1918

CONDUCTOR
HON. H. M. CROOKS
President of Alma College

LECTURERS
HON. E. B. BRYAN
President of Colgate University,
Hamilton, N. Y.
HON. EDGAR A. GUEST
Editor of Detroit Free Press
HON. A. N. CODY
Superintendent of Flint City Schools

PROGRAM

Thursday Morning, 9:30
Music.....Institute
In charge of O. H. Voelker, Prin.
of Owosso High School
Devotional.....Rev. H. A. Waite
Pastor Baptist Church, Owosso
Introductory Remarks.....
.....Pres. Crooks
Address.....Pres. Bryan
Entertainment in charge of Prin.
Voelker
Address.....Mr. Guest

Thursday Afternoon, 1:30
Music.....Kindergarten Band
Owosso City Schools
Address.....Pres. Crooks
Address.....Mr. Guest
Recess.
Music.....Glee Club, Owosso Eighth
Address.....Pres. Bryan

Friday Morning, 9:30
Music.....Owosso High School Band
Devotional.....Rev. B. G. Mattson
Pastor Congregational Church, Owosso
Address.....Pres. Crooks
Music, Laingsburg High School
Chorus, in charge of Miss
Clara Getman
Address.....Supt. Cody

Friday Afternoon, 1:30
Music.....Owosso High School Orchestra
Address.....Supt. Cody
Recess.
Reading.....Miss Pauline Emerson
Principal of Corunna High School
Address.....Pres. Crooks

To Gas Consumers.

We wish to advise those who are using their gas ranges to heat their homes, to please stop this practice; it does not help to conserve the fuel, but it makes matters worse. First, it reduces the gas pressure to such an extent that at meal times it is almost useless in some parts of the city.

Second, it uses up our coal supply, so that now in a short time it will be exhausted if the above practice is kept up; it increases your gas bill to almost double, and in one instance more, where we found that one consumer had the gas stove burning for eight continuous hours in one day and from four to six on others the same week, and then complained about his large gas bills. There are about 6000 people who depend on gas for cooking and a shut down would mean something that most of the people do not now realize.

Respectfully,
OWOSSO GAS LIGHT CO.
By A. T. Birk.

ROBBER GIVEN FIVE YEARS

Judge Collins' First Criminal Sentence Disposes of Much Wanted Thief.

Judge J. H. Collins sentenced Frank Dalton, Monday, to serve not to exceed five years at Jackson prison for committing grand larceny two years and a half ago, when he took jewelry, clothing, and a baby's bank containing \$19 from the home of his employer in Burns township. He has been a fugitive since, having been caught once at Lansing and escaped. He is wanted on charges of forgery, auto stealing and highway robbery, and a reward of \$1,000 was offered in connection with the last charge.

Arno Wheeler of Owosso, was arraigned in the circuit court and pleaded not guilty to keeping a place where liquor was disposed of. He is out on bail until his trial Jan. 28.

A. H. Wilder of Owosso, charged with attempting to shoot a patrolman, pleaded not guilty, as did Charles Cooney of Durand, accused of criminally assaulting his stepdaughter. Both will be tried later this month.

MICHIGAN'S WORST BLIZZARD.

The worst blizzard experienced in Michigan in the memory of any but the oldest citizens, occurred Saturday with a fall of an immense quantity of snow, a fierce wind the thermometer as low as 18 below zero, and continued zero weather for three days. Large, solid snow drifts prevented practically all travel by auto or horse drawn vehicles, and no trains came into or left this city from Friday night to Monday. Adding to the seriousness of the situation was the desperate shortage of fuel and the inability to deliver the little on hand.

The storm was general over the entire eastern half of the United States and in many localities persons were frozen to death, and untold numbers suffered frozen ears, hands and feet.

No mail deliveries were made Saturday by rural carriers, and only business deliveries by city carriers. For the first time in the history of the Owosso postoffice no mail was received for two days. A large number of factory men were unable to reach the factories Saturday, and many business men and lady clerks made no effort to get to stores. Saturday's business in Owosso was probably the lightest of any day in many years. Traveling men were storm bound wherever they happened to be Friday night, some getting within a few miles of home and being unable to get trains for their homes. In every city in Michigan water pipes were frozen, windows blown in and roofs caved in causing an enormous financial loss.

Monday all available teams were put to work hauling off the mountains of snow that was piled up along the walks in the downtown district, and many citizens were suffering Monday from the unusual and hard work of cleaning off the walks in front of their homes.

Services were held in but few churches Sunday, and Owossoites were disappointed in not being able to hear Congressman Richmond P. Hobson who was to appear at a union meeting at the Baptist church Sunday evening.

Supervisors G. L. Braden of Byron, S. A. Platt of Laingsburg and E. D. Colby of Shafterburg were unable to reach their homes Saturday morning and were compelled to remain in Owosso over Sunday.

Four fire alarms were turned in Saturday but no serious losses occurred. The new motor fire trucks were able to get near enough in each instance to have given service in case of necessity. The Bryant school was closed Monday because of the burning out of the electric motor, and several grades at the Washington school was closed Monday as the rooms were insufficiently heated.

Christ Episcopal Church.

The annual business meeting of Christ Episcopal church was held Tuesday evening at the rectory, with an attendance of nearly 100. At 6 o'clock a pot-luck supper was served after which the business session was held.

The reports of the church and the various societies for the past nine months were read and showed them to be in a thriving condition. Pledge cards were given out to be signed and returned later. Then followed the election of the vestry, which resulted as follows: Senior warden, A. D. Whipple; junior warden, Fred M. Crowe; treasurer, George M. Dewey; secretary, Van R. Pond. The members of the vestry with the above are J. H. Laverock, J. M. Terbush, B. L. Axford, William D. Whitehead, E. B. Hoffman and Walter Upham. Mr. Upham was elected vestryman to take the place of L. B. Allison, who now resides in California.

DRASTIC ORDER TO CONSERVE FUEL

All Manufacturing Plants Excepting Those Producing Food Products and War Supplies Closed For Five Days.

Business Places and Offices to Be Affected By the Same Order.

National Fuel Administrator Garfield has issued a drastic order effective today to conserve coal in the running of all manufacturing plants east of the Mississippi river and to wholesale and retail places of business. An abstract of the order follows:

1—Until further order of the United States fuel administrator all persons selling fuel in whatever capacity shall give preference to orders for necessary requirements.

(A)—Of domestic consumers, hospitals, charitable institutions and army and navy contingents.

(C)—Of public utilities, telephones, and telegraph plants.

(D)—Of ships and vessels for bunker purposes.

(E)—Of the U. S. for strictly governmental purposes, not including orders from or for factories or plants working on contracts for the United States.

(F)—Of municipal, county or state government for necessary public uses.

(G)—Of manufacturers of perishable food or of food for necessary immediate consumption.

The order further provides that on Jan. 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1918, no fuel shall be delivered to any person, firm, association or corporation for any uses or requirements not included in the foregoing list until the requirements included in the list shall have been first delivered.

Fuel Use on Mondays.
On Jan. 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1918, and also on each and every Monday beginning Jan. 28, 1918, and continuing up to and including March 25, 1918, no manufacturing plant shall burn fuel or use power derived from fuel for any purposes except:

(A)—Such plants as from their nature must be continuously operated seven days each week, to avoid serious injury to the plant itself or its contents.

(B)—Manufacturers of perishable foods.

(C)—Manufacturers of food not perishable and not in immediate demand, who may burn fuel to such extent as is authorized by the fuel administrator of the state in which such plant is located or by his representative authorized therefor, upon application by the United States food administrator.

(D)—Printers or publishers of daily papers may burn fuel as usual excepting on every Monday from Jan. 21 to March 25, 1918, inclusive, on which days they may burn fuel to such extent as is necessary to issue such editions as such papers customarily issue on important national legal holidays, and where such papers do not issue any

editions on a holiday, they are permitted to issue one edition on said Mondays.

(E)—Printing establishments which may burn fuel on Jan. 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22, to such extent as is necessary to issue current numbers of magazines and other publications periodically issued.

Tells of Exceptions.

On each Monday beginning Jan. 21, 1918, and continuing up to and including Monday, March 25, 1918, no fuel shall be burned (except to such extent as is essential to prevent injury to property from freezing) for the purpose of supplying heat for:

(A)—Any business or professional offices, except offices used by the United States, state, county or municipal governments, transportation companies, or which are occupied by banks and trust companies or by physicians or dentists.

(B)—Wholesale or retail stores, or any other stores, business houses or buildings whatever, except that for the purpose of selling food only, for which purposes stores may maintain necessary heat until 12 o'clock noon, and for the purpose of selling drugs and medical supplies only, stores may maintain necessary heat throughout the day and evening.

(C)—Theatres, moving picture houses, bowling alleys, billiard rooms, private or public dance halls or any places of amusement.

On the above specified Mondays, no fuel shall be burned, for the purpose of heating rooms or buildings in which liquor is sold on those days.

No fuel shall be burned on any of the foregoing specified Mondays for the purpose of supplying power for the movement of surface, elevated, subway or suburban cars or trains in excess of the amount used on the Sundays previous thereto.

The order provides that nothing in this order shall be held to forbid the burning of fuel to heat rooms or such portions of buildings as are used in connection with the production or distribution of fuel.

The state fuel administrators are authorized by the order to issue orders on special applications for relief, where necessary, to prevent injury to health or destruction or injury to property by fire or freezing.

The order is effective in all of the territory of the United States east of the Mississippi river, including the whole of the states of Louisiana and Minnesota.

All the manufacturing plants in Owosso save the Owosso Milling Co. are affected by this order, and are closed.

COAL CONSERVATION RULES

Because of the Extreme Shortage of Fuel in Michigan, State Administrator Prudden Has Issued the Appended Regulations, Which Become Effective January 17 and Will Continue Indefinitely.

1. All retail and wholesale stores, office buildings and all places of business and places of amusement of every kind and nature, not otherwise herein excepted, may be heated and lighted and open to the public nine consecutive hours only on all week days, except Saturday, when the limit of time may be twelve hours.

Each line of business or place of amusement may elect the nine consecutive hours during which they may be open, but the closing hour shall be not later than 10 p. m., and each place of business shall post at entrance in a conspicuous place the nine hours so elected.

2. The exceptions to the above are as follows:

(a) Churches, time limit six hours each week; this time may be all consumed on Sunday, or one Sunday and one week day service.

(b) Theatres, vaudeville and moving picture shows close entirely 24 hours Monday and Tuesday of each week. On all other days the total hours from opening shall not exceed five hours, and the closing hour not later than 11 p. m.

(c) In case of so-called all night lunch rooms, which have been open heretofore practically 24 hours, and

not being in connection with any other line of business or amusement, may be open nine consecutive hours out of the 24; said lunch rooms that desire to elect nine hours between 6 p. m. and 8 a. m. shall first obtain a written permission from the mayor of the city or head of the said municipality.

(d) All hotels shall close bars, dining rooms and cafes in connection with said hotel at 10 p. m., to conform to the limit of closing time of restaurants and saloons, and the time of keeping open shall be limited to nine consecutive hours. The provisions of this section (d) shall also apply to all clubs.

3. The lights in windows during the period of several stores and all lines are closed must be extinguished at hour of closing. No lights during the closed period except such as are required for safety lights.

4. All outside illuminating signs for advertising purposes to be eliminated, and all unnecessary inside illumination during business hours to be eliminated.

5. All lighting of streets, parks, and boulevards must be confined to necessary lights for safety.

6. Heating of stores shall not be in excess of 68 degrees.

This order does not apply to depots, railroad stations, government or municipal buildings.

The order shall become effective and in force on the 17th day of January, 1918, and continue in force until further notice.

All persons within the state of Michigan are directed and ordered to observe the above order. The penalties for violation, as provided by the laws of the United States, will be strictly enforced.

The mayors of cities and municipal heads of towns and villages are directed to enforce the provisions of this order.

WASHINGTON LETTER

Washington, Jan. 15.—The index for the Congressional Record of the first month of the present session has made its appearance. It gives in concise form a list of the bills, petitions, and committee reports presented by each Senator and Member, and also a list of subjects on which each man has submitted remarks. Hence a reference to the index gives a fair indication of the activity of members and shows whether they have been engaged in constructive legislation or mere "windbagery." Senator J. Hamilton Lewis, the eloquent Democratic spell-binder of Illinois, of course has done nothing but talk, no entry whatever being made under his name except a list of "remarks." A Democratic member from Ohio has busied himself with preparing and introducing 75 individual pension bills that seek to make special exceptions from the general pension laws in favor of his friends at home. Still another patriot from Mississippi has succeeded in resurrecting a lot of old claims arising out of the use of private property by our armies in the Civil War, and has presented them to the House in the form of 42 separate bills. It is well known that practically all worthy claims of that character were paid by Republican administrations long ago, but this member is so busy buying political support at home at the expense of the Government that he spends more time on the musty records of 50 years ago than on the public necessities of the present hour.

The old-age pension idea, which has been given fresh impetus by the bill introduced by Congressman Benjamin K. Focht of Pennsylvania. He would grant an annuity by the Government of \$20 per month to all American citizens who have resided in the United States 20 years, have reached the age of 65, and have an annual income of less than \$300. Mr. Focht has also taken a stand in favor of a substantial increase in the salaries of Government employees.

The total additions to the southern cotton mills for the first quarter of last year were 161,512 spindles and 4,382 looms, for the second quarter, 322,684 spindles and 10,524 looms. All the southern mills are now manufacturing to the extent of their capacity. The most important development in the Southern textile business is the construction of the new Marshall Field knit goods mills. A few years ago the Marshall Field Company, of Chicago, was fighting the Republican tariff law because a protective rate was laid on hosiery. A little investigation showed that the company was having hosiery made in Chemnitz and was importing it for sale here. Of course they kicked at a protective rate of duty. They were again profiting under the Democratic tariff policy up until the war broke out. Since that time they have been unable to get any of their German made hosiery into this country. So they have decided to make hosiery here. American laborers will receive some of the benefit of the new undertaking. And you can bet that Marshall Field and Company will not be fighting against the new Republican tariff law.

Prior to the establishment of American independence the nations of the earth were governed chiefly by single individuals or by small groups, either self-appointed or established by claim of "divine right." Government by laws enacted by representatives chosen by popular vote was practically unknown. The system of government in force throughout the world in 1789 was exceedingly unsatisfactory, so the framers of the American constitution set up a government of three co-ordinate branches, each constituting a check upon the others. The creation of a Congress was an expression of lack of confidence in the ability of any one man to run a government as it ought to be run. The establishment of courts whose judges serve for life was also an expression of lack of confidence in an executive who has control over judges. In the century and a quarter since our constitution was adopted, we have seen no reason to abandon the system of checks and balances. In view of these facts, it is hardly in order for President Wilson to object to the creation of a Congressional committee on war expenditures on the ground that it is an expression of lack of confidence in him. Our whole system of government is an expression of lack of confidence in either him or any

other one man as unrestrained ruler of the American people.

After he had spent some months and no little money in the experiment of building U-boat chasers, the Secretary of the Navy turned to destroyers as the best weapon against the submarine only to find that the shipyards of the country were crowded with other work, that new plants had to be created to build the destroyers which he now wants, that advances had to be made from the Treasury to insure the building of these new plants, that priority of shipment had to be granted to the new yards and that \$400,000,000 had to be immediately forthcoming for all these purposes. This made \$515,000,000 in two items as the cost to the nation of Josephus Daniels' inefficiency. Congress, prior to March 4, 1915, authorized the construction of ships which was not undertaken until about two years later, when the increased cost of material and labor and the crowded condition of American shipyards made it necessary to appropriate \$115,000,000 to assure the speeding up of the program which Daniels had neglected. This, added to the \$400,000,000 required by a later error in judgment, made more than half a billion which he has cost the country and which may be readily traceable and charged up. It is likely that there are many other items more obscure which will raise the cost of Daniels to much more than this. Is he worth it?

COUNTY WAR PREPAREDNESS BOARD

Gov. Sleeper Names E. O. Dewey, A. B. Cook and S. Q. Pulver for This County

The following statement is by Secretary Mark T. McKee of the Michigan Red Cross and Liberty Loan Committee.

To produce even greater success than has resulted from Michigan's magnificent civilian war efforts in the past, Governor Albert E. Sleeper, as Chief Executive of the State, Titular Head of the Red Cross for Michigan and Chairman of the State Liberty Loan Committee and related campaigns for the Federal Government, has decided to combine and coordinate all civilian war activities under the War Preparedness Board plan now in operation in a number of states and recommended by the National Government. Accordingly the Governor, Thursday, announced the appointment of a War Preparedness Board for each county in the State. Three men will constitute the board except in Wayne and Kent, where five men are named because of the population of the counties.

These Boards will be the representatives of the State War Preparedness Board in each county. They will constitute in the aggregate a County War Preparedness Division with the Governor as Chairman and Mark T. McKee, of Detroit, as Secretary. Mr. McKee already being Secretary of the State Red Cross and the State Liberty Loan Committee. The appointments are nonpartisan, the selection being based upon the ability and public spirit of the men. At its first meeting the Board will select a Chairman. It will then appoint three men boards in each township and ward in their district so that there will be a permanent, state-wide organization reaching into every nook and corner of Michigan, ready for any work that may become necessary through the war.

The Governor's action will mobilize all Michigan's strength for war work. It is, at the same time, the first step in organizing the state for the next Liberty Loan which will be conducted this Spring. No authority, duty or responsibility is removed from any organization now existing. The great object accomplished is the co-ordination of all efforts and the establishment of all the recognized organizations as permanent bodies for the duration of the war. In addition, through the vestment of control in the county organizations, the opportunities for projects launched for personal benefit as well as those that are ill-advised are removed. Michigan has not been troubled by the latter two classes, but other states have had such experience and the county organization plan guards against their introduction by selfish or over enthusiastic persons.

"Michigan has done magnificent work—no state has surpassed us in energy and results," said Governor Sleeper. "We're going to do even better in the future by this co-ordination of energy and effort. Under the new plan, we can throw every ounce of Michigan's great patriotic energy into any given channel, wherever it may be needed."

"If only the civilians can hold out" is the somewhat cynical but penetrating comment of the French Army upon the chances for victory. And that bit of cynicism is the cold, deadly truth. If the civilians do not hold out—the army is lost. Men and guns we can supply in abundance. But the support of the army comes from the civilians and when the civilians fail, the army is helpless. Let us mobilize to the last man and woman in Michigan."